

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4601
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

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PASS CAB (WEST, RODRIGUEZ), YUY (KAMM), WHITE HOUSE
(JOHNSTON)
ATHENS FOR DOT ASSISTANT SECRETARY DAVENPORT

E.O. 11652:GDS
TAGS: EAIR, UK
SUBJECT: US-UK CIVAIR NEGOTIATIONS: PRESS GUIDANCE

1. FOLLOWING ARE SUGGESTED Q AND A FOR STATE NOON PRESS BRIEFING ON JUNE 2 RE CIVAIR NEGOTIATIONS:
2. Q. WHAT IS STATUS US-UK CIVAIR TALKS IN LONDON?
3. A. BOTH SIDES CONTINUE TO PRESS HARD IN EFFORT TO REACH AGREEMENT. WHILE PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN SOME IMPORTANT AREAS, THE TWO SIDES REMAIN FAR APART ON CERTAIN ITEMS OF FUNDAMENTAL IMPORTANCE TO A NEW AGREEMENT.
4. Q. DOT SEC ADAMS SAID IN LONDON ON MAY 23 THAT IF THE OUTLINE OF AN AGREEMENT WERE NOT CLEAR BY JUNE 2, THE TALKS WOULD BREAK OFF. HAS THE USDEL BEEN INSTRUCTED TO COME HOME?

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5. A. NO FINAL ASSESSMENT HAS BEEN MADE REGARDING THE STATUS OF THE TALKS. THIS WEEKEND IS THE BEGINNING OF THE JUBILEE CELEBRATION IN THE UK OF H.M. QUEEN ELIZABETH'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER REIGN. (BOTH MONDAY AND TUESDAY ARE HOLIDAYS IN THE UK.) BOTH SIDES HAD PLANNED, AS LONG AGO AS APRIL, THAT THE CURRENT

SESSION IN LONDON WOULD RECESS FOR THE JUBILEE CELEBRATION. THE QUESTION IS WHETHER SUFFICIENT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE THAT A NEW AGREEMENT IS LIKELY BY JUNE 22. IF SO, AMBASSADOR BOYD AND HIS DELEGATION ARE PREPARED TO STAY IN LONDON. IF NOT, THEN IT WOULD BE BETTER TO AWAIT ANOTHER ROUND OF TALKS. AS WE ALTERNATE MEETING, PLACES, THE 7TH ROUND WOULD BE IN WASHINGTON.

6. Q. WHEN WOULD A 7TH ROUND BEGIN?

7. A. WHENEVER THE UK WANTS.

8. Q. WILL OPERATIONS CEASE ON JUNE 22 IF NO AGREEMENT CAN BE REACHED?

9. A. THAT WOULD DEPEND UPON A NUMBER OF CONSIDERATIONS. THE US HAS NO DESIRE TO SEE AN INTERRUPTION IN SERVICES, BUT OF COURSE CONTINGENCY PLANS HAVE TO BE MADE.

BREWSTER

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